

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical implant configured to be implanted at least partially within a well formed in an outer surface of a skull bone of a recipient, the implant comprising:
a low profile hermetically sealed housing encasing electronics configured to generate stimulation signals for application to the recipient, and having at least two ~~least one~~ pliable flanges ~~flange~~ extending outwardly ~~therefrom, from substantially opposite sides of the housing,~~ wherein the housing has a length and width that are substantially greater than a thickness between an upper and lower surface of the housing, wherein the housing defines a plane configured to match a plane of the outer surface of the skull bone in which the medical implant is configured to be implanted, and wherein, ~~when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, each of the at least one flange~~ two flanges is bendable by hand across its entire length so that, ~~when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, at least a portion of the at least one flange fits~~ each of the at least two flanges is conformable to be substantially flush against the surface of the bone adjacent the well and is securable to the bone.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the implant is an implantable component of a tissue-stimulating prosthesis.
4. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of claim 3, wherein the tissue-stimulating prosthesis is a cochlear implant and the implantable component ~~is a~~ comprises a receiver/stimulator package of the cochlear implant.
5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the well is surgically formed in the surface of the bone of the recipient.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least ~~one flange~~ two flanges extends at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing from the upper surface of the housing.

10. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least ~~one flange~~ two flanges extends at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing from the lower surface of the housing.

11-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, wherein a plate is mounted to the housing and said at least ~~one flange extends~~ two flanges extend outwardly from the plate.

14. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 13~~ claim 13, wherein said plate is removably or non-removably mounted to the housing.

15-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, wherein said at least ~~one flange is~~ two flanges are formed separately from and mounted to the housing.

20. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 1~~ claim 1, wherein said at least ~~one flange is~~ two flanges are removably mounted to the housing.

21. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 20~~ claim 20, wherein said at least ~~one flange~~ two flanges or the housing is provided with engagement means that are engageable with the housing or ~~flange~~, flanges, respectively.

22. (Currently Amended) The medical implant of ~~claim 21~~ claim 21, wherein the engagement means comprises one or more clips on the housing that are engageable with the at least two

flanges. ~~flanges.~~

23-29 (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The medical implant of claim 1, wherein the medical implant is a receiver/stimulator package of a cochlear implant; and wherein the receiver/stimulator package further comprises:

a receiver coil extending from the housing and configured to be positioned on the outer surface of the skull bone adjacent to the housing when the housing is implanted in the well formed in the skull bone.

31. (Currently Amended) A low profile hermetically sealed housing for a ~~for~~ medical implant configured to be implanted at least partially within a well formed in an outer surface of a skull bone of a recipient, the housing comprising:

at ~~least one~~ least two pliable ~~flange~~ flanges extending outwardly ~~therefrom,~~ from substantially opposite sides of the housing, wherein the housing encases electronics configured to generate stimulation signals for application to the recipient, has a length and width that are substantially greater than a thickness between an upper and lower surface of the housing, ~~wherein the housing~~ and defines a plane configured to match a plane of the outer surface of the skull bone in which the medical implant is configured to be implanted, and wherein, ~~when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well,~~ each of the at least one flange two flanges is conformable by hand so that, when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, at least a portion of ~~the at least one flange~~ each of the at least two flanges may be conformed to the surface of the bone adjacent the well and ~~is securable~~ secured to the bone.

32. (New) The housing of claim 31, wherein at least one of said at least two flanges extends from the housing at least substantially parallel to the plane of the housing and at a location between the upper surface of the housing and the lower surface of the housing.

33. (New) The housing of claim 32, wherein said at least two flanges extend outwardly from a location that is approximately midway between the upper and lower surfaces.

34. (New) The housing of claim 31, wherein each of said at least two flanges has a thickness between about 0.1 mm and 0.3 mm.

35. (New) The housing of claim 31, wherein each of said at least two flanges is an integral extension of the housing.

36. (New) A medical implant configured to be implanted at least partially within a well formed in an outer surface of a skull bone of a recipient, the implant comprising:

a low profile hermetically sealed housing encasing electronics configured to generate stimulation signals for application to the recipient, and having at least two pliable flanges extending outwardly from substantially opposite first and second sides of the housing, wherein the housing has a length and width that are substantially greater than a thickness between an upper and lower surface of the housing, wherein the housing defines a plane configured to match a plane of the outer surface of the skull bone in which the medical implant is configured to be implanted, and wherein each of the at least two flanges is bendable by hand across its entire length so that, when the lower surface of the housing is positioned within the well, at least a portion of each of the at least two flanges is conformable to be substantially flush against the surface of the bone adjacent the well and is securable to the bone; and

a receiver coil that at least partially extends from a third side of the housing different from the first and second sides.

37. (New) The medical implant of claim 36, wherein each of said at least two flanges has one or more orifices passing therethrough that are adapted to receive a tissue fixation device.

38. (New) The medical implant of claim 36, wherein said medical implant comprises a material selected from a group consisting of titanium, stainless steel, silicone rubber, non-magnetic metal, plastic, PTFE, Dacron mesh, polyurethane, and carbon fiber.

39. (New) The medical implant of claim 36, wherein each of said at least two flanges is welded onto said housing.

40. (New) The medical implant of claim 36, wherein said housing comprises a silicone rubber coating.

41. (New) The medical implant of claim 36, wherein each of said at least two flanges comprises a silicone rubber coating.